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USSN: 10/527,771

Attorney Docket: 1-2002.015 US

Response to Office Action of March 27, 2006

Amendments to the Claims:

Please replace the pending claims with the claims that follow:

1-29. (cancelled)

30. (withdrawn) An isolated and purified nucleic acid sequence encoding a 30 kD *Ostertagia ostertagi* protein or a part of said nucleic acid sequence that encodes an immunogenic fragment of said protein, said nucleic acid sequence or said part thereof having at least 85% homology with the nucleic acid sequence of the *Ostertagia ostertagi* protein gene as depicted in SEQ ID NO: 9.

31. (withdrawn) A recombinant DNA molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence according to claim 30, under the control of a functionally linked promoter.

32. (withdrawn) A live recombinant carrier, comprising:
a nucleic acid sequence according to claim 30.

33. (withdrawn) A recombinant host cell, comprising:
a nucleic acid sequence according to claim 30.

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34. (currently amended) An isolated and purified 30 kD *Ostertagia ostertagi* protein ~~or an immunogenic fragment of said protein~~, wherein said protein ~~or immunogenic fragment thereof~~ has a sequence homology of at least 90% to the amino acid sequence as depicted in SEQ ID NO: 10.

35. (currently amended) An isolated and purified *Ostertagia ostertagi* protein ~~or an immunogenic fragment of said protein~~, wherein said protein ~~or immunogenic fragment~~ is encoded by a nucleic acid sequence as depicted in SEQ ID NO: 9 according to claim 30.

36. (currently amended) A vaccine for combating *Ostertagia ostertagi* infection, comprising: ~~at least one the~~ *Ostertagia ostertagi* protein ~~or an immunogenic fragment of said protein~~ according to claim 34 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

37. (withdrawn) A vaccine for combating *Ostertagia ostertagi* infection, comprising: the nucleic acid sequence according to claims 30, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

38. (withdrawn) A vaccine for combating *Ostertagia ostertagi* infection, comprising: the recombinant host cell according to claim 33 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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39. (withdrawn) A vaccine for combating *Ostertagia ostertagi* infection, comprising: the live recombinant carrier according to claim 32 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

40. (previously presented) The vaccine according to claim 36, further comprising an adjuvant.

41. (withdrawn) The vaccine according to claim 36, further comprising:
an additional antigen derived from a virus or micro-organism pathogenic to cattle, an antibody against said antigen or genetic information encoding said antigen and/or a pharmaceutical component.

42. (withdrawn) The vaccine according to claim 41, wherein said virus or microorganism pathogenic to cattle is selected from the group of Bovine Herpesvirus, bovine Viral Diarrhea virus, Parainfluenza type 3 virus, Bovine Paramyxovirus, Foot and Mouth Disease virus, *Pasteurella haemolytica*, Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus, *Theileria* sp., *Babesia* sp., *Trypanosoma species*, *Anaplasma* sp., *Neospora caninum*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus agalactiae*, *Mycoplasma*, *E. coli*, *Enterobacter*, *Klebsiella*, *Citrobacter* and *Streptococcus dysgalactiae*.

43. (withdrawn) A diagnostic kit, comprising: suitable detection means and a nucleic acid sequence according to claims 30.

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44. (currently amended) A diagnostic kit, comprising: suitable detection means and a protein or ~~immunogenic fragment thereof~~ according to claim 34.

45. (withdrawn) A method of preventing or treating an infection caused by *Ostertagia ostertagi* in an animal, comprising: administering an effective amount of the vaccine according claim 36 to the animal.

46. (withdrawn) A method of preventing or treating an infection caused by *Ostertagia ostertagi* in an animal, comprising: administering an effective amount of the vaccine according claim 37 to the animal.

47. (withdrawn) A method of preventing or treating an infection caused by *Ostertagia ostertagi* in an animal, comprising: administering an effective amount of the vaccine according claim 38 to the animal.

48. (withdrawn) A method of preventing or treating an infection caused by *Ostertagia ostertagi* in an animal, comprising: administering an effective amount of the vaccine according claim 39 to the animal.

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49. (withdrawn) A method of preventing or treating an infection caused by *Ostertagia ostertagi* in an animal, comprising: administering an effective amount of the vaccine according claim 41 to the animal.